Response to OA dated December 24, 2008

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the two paragraphs on page 2, lines 8-21, with the following two paragraphs:

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According to an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, there is provided a method for supporting an interworking between a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) and a mobile communications network. The interworking is facilitated by an InterWorking Function (IWF) disposed on a WLAN side of the interworking mobile communications network. The method comprises the step of connecting the WLAN to the mobile communications network by employing the IWF as a Drift Radio Network Controller (DRNC) for the mobile communications network.

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus for supporting an interworking between a Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) and a mobile communications network. The interworking is facilitated by an InterWorking Function (IWF) disposed on a WLAN side of the interworking mobile communications network. The apparatus comprises means for connecting the WLAN to the mobile communications network using the IWF as a Drift Radio Network Controller (DRNC) for the mobile communications network.